

### **III. AMENDMENT TO THE ABSTRACT**

*Please replace the abstract starting on line 1 of page 40 with the following new abstract.*

--The present invention related to an isolated polynucleotide from *Corynebacterium glutamicum* comprising a polynucleotide sequence chosen from the group consisting of

- a) polynucleotide which is identical to the extent of at least 70% to a polynucleotide which codes for a polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2,
- b) polynucleotide which codes for a polypeptide which comprises an amino acid sequence which is identical to the extent of at least 70% to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2,
- c) polynucleotide which is complementary to the polynucleotides of a) or b), and
- d) polynucleotide comprising at least 15 successive nucleotides of the polynucleotide sequence of a), b), or c).

and a process for the fermentative preparation of L-amino acids using coryneform bacteria in which at least the sigE gene is present in enhanced form, and the use of polynucleotides which comprise the sequences according to the invention as hybridizaion probes.--